

ASCENSION EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHAPEL

30 NORTH COURT STREET

The small former Episcopal Chapel, recently converted into a private residence, faces the west side of Court Square in the City of Westminster near Courthouse Square.

When the present owner took title in 1961, she made a few modifications to the existing fabric, modifications that would give the building a less holy and more domestic appearance. The building is, basically, a two bay by five bay single story pile with an extremely deeply-pitched gable roof with gable ends to the east and west. The building is laid in a pleasant rose brick in five course common bond whose muted tones work well with the pale grey of the shingle roof and the pale olive green that the wooden trim (window enframingent, etc.) is painted. Originally, there was a small four-sided belfry which was raised on stilts above the north (principal) facade at the gable's peak. The belfry had a gable on each facade at the base, and was surmounted by a cross - this was, not unreasonably, removed when the building was adapted for a different use.

When the present owner took title, she and her brother divided the space to meet the needs of 20th century domestic living, but did not alter the basic feeling of the house inside or out. The romantic, small-scale gardens they built aid in maintaining the place's picturesque nature, as does the collection of eclectic fine furniture on the inside.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CARR 464
MAEI#0704645604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ascension Episcopal Church Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

30 North Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Edgar G. Barnes

Telephone #: 848-8339

STREET & NUMBER

30 N. Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 340

Folio #: 230

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The small former Episcopal Chapel, recently converted into a private residence, faces the west side of Court Square in the City of Westminster near Courthouse Square.

When the present owner took title in 1961, she made a few modifications to the existing fabric, modifications that would give the building a less holy and more domestic appearance. The building is, basically, a two bay by five bay single story pile with an extremely deeply-pitched gable roof with gable ends to the east and west. The building is laid in a pleasant rose brick in five course common bond whose muted tones work well with the pale grey of the shingle roof and the pale olive green that the wooden trim (window enframement, etc.) is painted. Originally, there was a small four-sided belfry which was raised on stilts above the north (principal) facade at the gable's peak. The belfry had a gable on each facade at the base, and was surmounted by a cross - this was, not unreasonably, removed when the building was adapted for a different use. The east facade also was enlivened by a brick Greek Cross in the center of the gable; this has been replaced by a pair of 6/6 windows used to light the upstairs bedroom. A shed roofed section was built off of this facade, originally containing, perhaps, a sacristy, and now containing a small sunroom. The shed roof, which then and now slopes to the east, was originally broken by a small gable; this has been removed. The main door to the house is to the north of this facade; it is a solid, dark-green, wooden door within a small vestibule. Latticed windows are placed in the center of the facade giving sun, and keeping the medieval appearance originally intended; two small 1/1 windows flank the pair of latticed windows. Two tall, thin, round-capped chimneys added interest to the facade; they still exist--a smaller (lower) one to the south, and a taller one to the north. The north and south facades are identical on the ground floor - each consists of five 6/6 windows which alternate with buttresses. The south facade has another addition, a small, steeply-pitched, gable dormer adds light to the second story, by means of its small 6/1 window. The present owner added a pleasant plate glass and tongue-in-groove board sunporch to the west of the building, below the retained brick Greek Cross, which, as it did originally, enlivens the center of this gable end. An engraving of the building in the 1887 City Directory shows a place with a definite rural atmosphere behind a picket fence, complete with barns, sheds and aviaries. The present owner, upon moving to the City, felt desirous of replanting some sort of garden about the place, but a garden more for the needs of man than animal. Therefore, she has surrounded the place with plantings of box and other small evergreen shrubs,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1876

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early and religious significance of the former chapel is, of course, bound up in the significance of the entire history of Ascension Church and its parish. The parish must have prospered in its first thirty years, for it, after building the stone church directly across Court Street (q.v.), built this small chapel in 1876. Even as the church itself is a fine local Gothic product (admired by, among others, Phoebe Stanton), so was the chapel. This latter building was less doggedly religious in nature than the Church, resembling early medieval West English rectangular houses (although, admittedly, many of these c. 14th century buildings were priests' houses). Like the church, the chapel definitely looks to the middle ages. As such, it makes marked contrast to most of Westminster's architecture (secular or temporal) in its academicism (interesting that academics would have looked back to rural vernacular buildings). A comparison of plans reveals;

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This was one of the several lots in Westminster owned by prominent financier, John Fisher. When he died, his widow, who had remarried, Annie E. M. Maulsby, sold a large lot, measuring almost an acre, to the Vestry of the Parish of Ascension for \$1,000.00 on February 23, 1876, Carroll County Deed Book 46, Page 160. The church then immediately built the chapel. The church retained title and use of the building for almost a hundred years until it was sold to the present owner, Vivian E. Barnes and her brother (who has since died) on October 28, 1961 (340/230); Mrs. Barnes took title only to the southern half of

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the southern 70' x 193' half of the lot labeled "Episcopal School Church" as shown on the 1877 plat of the City of Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

August, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

flowering bushes and trees, and by meandering stone paths lined with ferns and other wildflowers.

the lot, the northern half had since been sold, see report
on 35 Court Place.

S.S. & 63⁰/₁₀ J4



216

Same Size

History
p. 125⁽¹²⁷⁾

~~CLXXIV - A~~

~~# 464~~

Inventory - Section J
(p. 47)
63%

J-4

(464)